

Washington, DC -- Members of the Congressional Task Force on Job Creation commended President Obama today on the proposals he laid out today to accelerate job growth and lay the foundation for robust economic growth. The jobs creation task force is a group of 20 members, co-chaired by Congresswoman Betty Sutton (OH-13) and Congressman Alcee Hastings (FL-23), working together to gather and review ideas for legislation that will create jobs and put our economy on sound footing for the future.

Congresswoman Betty Sutton (OH-13) , Co-Chair of the Congressional Task Force on Job Creation:

“Far too many Americans across the country are without a job and many more continue to worry about what tomorrow will bring. Today, President Obama made it clear that he agrees with House Democrats that now is the time for bold efforts to create jobs, employ our workers, and rebuild our economy so that it will work for and with America's workers and businesses.

“I have heard it said that ‘we are in a jobless recovery,’ but I assert that there is no such thing. There cannot be a meaningful ‘recovery’ until and unless my constituents have access to jobs that will enable them to provide for themselves and their families. I share the President’s belief that we must invest in our nation’s small businesses and give them the tools they need to grow and hire new workers. I also agree with the President that now is the time to secure our nation’s infrastructure by making key investments to modernize our roads, bridges and infrastructure.

“As Co-Chair of the Democratic Caucus’ Congressional Task Force on Job Creation, I am focused on bringing new and innovative ideas to the table that will put Americans back to work and restore the promise of the middle class. I look forward to working with the Administration, House and Senate Leadership and my colleagues to take immediate, smart and effective steps to create jobs and help facilitate rapid re-employment for our constituents.”

Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01), Chairman of the House Democratic Caucus:

“President Obama made clear today that he is standing with House Democrats as we invest in the American people and put middle class Americans back to work. We know families are hurting not just from the recent recession, but from decades of an economy that allowed the wealthiest to prosper but squeezed the middle class between rising costs for health care, education and other basic necessities and stagnant wages. By investing in small businesses, the engines of job growth, and our local communities, we will continue to rebuild the economy so that it puts working families first.

“A jobless recovery is not acceptable, and we will do everything we can to create good-paying American jobs and put people back to work. I am glad President Obama agrees with proposals set forth by House Democrats to use returning TARP funds to pay for job creation legislation. It is time for Wall Street to help rebuild Main Street. We will take steps in the coming weeks to make sure that happens.”

Congresswoman Dina Titus (NV-03):

“When I was sworn into office nearly one year ago, our country lost more than 700,000 jobs in one month alone. Since that time we have taken numerous steps to address the economic crisis we inherited. While we have seen signs that we are moving in the right direction, our work is far from done. Families in Southern Nevada are still struggling to find work and make ends meet.

“Today, President Obama made it clear that job creation must be our top priority moving forward. With Nevada’s unemployment still at record levels, action is needed to get people back to work. President Obama outlined a number of ideas, from strengthening small businesses so they can once again become engines of growth in our community to investing in energy efficiency that will create clean energy jobs. I look forward to working with the President and my colleagues to put Nevadans back to work and grow our economy.”

Congressman Paul Tonko (NY-21):

“The President made it clear today that creating jobs for Americans is our number one priority, and I wholeheartedly agree. While House Democrats have already taken steps to stabilize the economy and slow down the rate of job loss, especially as indicated through the Recovery Act, there is a broad agreement that more needs to be done.

“We need to continue what we started by making it easier for small businesses to create and sustain jobs, by investing and improving in our aging infrastructure, and by focusing on energy projects big and small — whether we’re making our homes more energy efficient or providing research and development funds that will lead to breakthrough developments in the clean energy technology of the future. I will continue to work with the President, leadership in the House and our local elected officials and business leaders to create jobs. This will lay the groundwork for an economy built on innovation, entrepreneurs and ideas that will include clean energy jobs at the forefront, helping make America even stronger than before.”

Congressman Bill Pascrell, Jr. (NJ-08):

“Today President Obama has given us another indication that he is leading the nation in the right direction out of this economic mess that he inherited. At this time, Congress is working with President Obama and his economic advisers to take the necessary and responsible steps to speed up job creation and economic growth,” said Pascrell, a member of the Congressional Task Force on Jobs Creation who met today with U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner in an effort to find common ground with the administration.

“I am glad to hear the President support my position that we find a way to use some of the Troubled Asset Relief Program money to provide small businesses with the help they need the most: easier access to credit and labor in order to remain liquid and increase productivity,” Pascrell said. “At the same time, President Obama is not neglecting the national deficit and is working to make significant efforts to get our spending under control. I applaud President Obama’s focus on these key issues. These are the common-sense principles that the best Main Street businesses have been built upon.”

Congresswoman Linda Sanchez (CA-39):

“I applaud President Obama for working with Congress on proposals to create jobs immediately and help out our working families,” said Rep. Linda Sánchez. “When the economy is in a crisis, our priority should be to support families and put Americans back to work. As a member of the Congressional Task Force on Job Creation, I am advancing proposals with this in mind, from job-creating tax policies to direct-hire jobs programs to rebuild our infrastructure and conserve our resources.”

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